

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN,PO, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN PRESSCOVERAGE OF BREAK-UP OF CDS PARTY CONGRESS

REF:LISBON 0442

1. ITALIAN PRESS HAS GIVEN SUBSTANTIAL AND ESSENTIALLY STRAIGHT COVERAGE TO CDS CONGRESS BREAK-UP. APPARENTLY DRAWING ON WIRE-SERVICES MOST PAPERS REPORTED FACTS (AS WE UNDERSTAND THEM) INCLUDING LOCAL COMMUNIST INVOLVEMENT, DENIALS OF RESPONSIBILITY BY NATIONAL COMMUNIST PARTY, AND PETER KIRK COMMENTS ON CHANCES FOR DEMOCRACY IN PORTUGAL. AVANTI (SOCIALIST) ADDS THAT PARTICIPATION BY ELEMENTS OF "SOCIALIST YOUTH" WAS WITHOUT CENTRAL PARTY FOREKNOWLEDGE OR AUTHORIZATION.

2. PREDICTABLE POLITICAL SLANTING COLORS STORIES IN RIGHT AND LEFT-WING PRESS. LOTTA CONTINUA (EXTREME MARXIST LEFT) WRITES OFF CDS AS "REACTIONARY PARA-FASCIST." L'UNITA AND PAESE SERA (COMMUNIST) NOTE PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY'S DISAPPROVAL OF BREAK-UP AS CONTRARY TO "ORDER AND DEMOCRATIC LIBERTY" ESTABLISHED LAST APRIL, EVEN THOUGH CDS IS RE-ACTIONARY. L'UNITA HAS THE HOOLIGANS LED BY "TROTSKYITES AND ANARCHISTS." VOCE REPUBBLICANA (CONSERVATIVE) REPORTS

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PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY IS "OFFERING POLITICAL COVER TO

EXTREMIST ACTIONS." CENTER-PAPER (IL POPOLO, DEOMCHRISTIAN)
JANUARY 28 CARRIES FULL-PAGE SPREAD CHARGING COMMUNIST
RESPONSIBILITY AND VIEWING IN MOST SOMBRE TERMS PROTUGAL'S
POLITICAL FUTURE.

3. COMMENT: PLAY MIGHT HAVE BEEN HEAVIER HAD NOT SENSATIONAL
ASSASSINATION OF TWO CARABINIERI IN CENTRAL ITALY BY A YOUNG
"FASCIST" NOT DOMINATE PRESS OF LAST TWO DAYS. STORY ON
SOARES ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SOCIALISTS WILL STAY IN GOVERNMENT
IS NOW OVERTAKING INCIDENT IN PRESS. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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